



Aptos/La Selva Fire Protection District

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February 8, 2007

Ms. Tracie Billington (via email)
Department of Water Resources
Division of Planning and Assistance
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Ms. Shahla Farahnak (via email)
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance
1001 "I" Street, 16th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Northern Santa Cruz County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan-
Implementation Grant Application

Dear Ms. Billington and Ms. Farahnak:

As Fire Chief of the Aptos/La Selva Beach Fire Protection District, I would like to extend my support for the Northern Santa Cruz County Integrated Regional Watershed Management Implementation grant proposal. The Fire District recognizes the value and importance of regional coordination and integrated planning in all areas of public interest.

Integrated water resources management is particularly embraced here in Santa Cruz County because of the severe water supply shortage, total dependence on local water resources, and significant environmental concerns for watersheds. The Northern Santa Cruz County water resource agencies have worked together since 1998 and have developed collaborative partnerships that resulted in proposed projects to address high priority needs with multi-faceted benefits. A \$12.5 million grant will make it possible for many of these projects to become a reality.

I urge you to award the Proposition 50 grant to this worthy suite of projects that benefit our unique Central Coast region.

Sincerely,

Chief Tom Crosser
Aptos/La Selva Beach Fire Protection District